

Wednesday Weekly

(A weekly update on agriculture education from the Department of Public Instruction)

The most recent 8 issues of Wednesday Weekly are available online at:

<http://www.dpi.wi.gov/cte/agww.html>

March 30, 2006

In This Issue:

- **Free AgEd/Science Curriculum - April 4th - Lodi High School**
- Supplemental Rosters
- Feedback Wanted!
- Governor's Blue Ribbon Livestock Auction Grants
- Wisconsin State Fair Agriculture Department Volunteer Program
- National FFA Organization To Host Delta Conference and Delta II
- Honorary State FFA Degree Applications
- New Scholarship Announced
- 2006 American Nursery and Landscape Association Grant Application
- Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board "Lesson in a Bottle" Curriculum Kit
- WAAE PSA Contest

April 4th - Lodi High School Free Ag Ed/science Curriculum from CAERT

The date, time and place has been set for 55 ag ed teachers to receive a sneak preview of a new curriculum as well as take home that day a cd-rom with over 100 ready to use lesson plans. There's more but you have to be there to find out. The tentative schedule would include starting between 3:00-3:30 pm and ending by the latest 6:00 pm.

Lodi High School as well as Oconto Falls High School and Gilman High School will be joining us via distance learning. If you have any interest in attending one of the other 2 schools please let me know. The Lodi location is full at this point!!!!!!!

Supplemental Rosters

Some notes regarding supplemental FFA rosters:

- Please do not send multiple rosters with 1 student listed in each file. If at all possible, send multiple names in one roster. Last year, I had over 4 supplemental rosters from some chapters. This creates extra work for all of us and the more rosters submitted, the more likely there will be payment issues.
- Be sure to use ONLY the supplemental roster file on the FFA website or that I distributed via the listserv last week. DO NOT USE THE SUPPLEMENTAL ROSTER ON THE CD - IT HAS A FLAW Previous year supplemental roster files will not be accepted and, if received, will be returned for re-entry on the current year roster file.
- The deadline for submitting supplemental rosters is **April 3**.
- Send all membership roster files and questions to the following e-mail address created just for membership information: ffamembership@dpi.state.wi.us
- Payment must be made payable to "Wisconsin Association of FFA", not the FFA Center, not DPI, not Keith Eccarius (thanks but no thanks.) I've had problems with our bank when trying to deposit some payments made out incorrectly.

- The mailing address for payment is on the Totals page that needs to be printed, signed and returned with payment.

Mail to: Wisconsin Association of FFA
Attention: Keith Eccarius
125 S. Webster Street
PO Box 7841
Madison, WI 53707-7841

Feedback wanted!

Are you interested in incorporating **sustainable agriculture** into your courses? As you may know, the Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems (CIAS) at UW-Madison is developing a set of modules on sustainable agriculture for high school agriculture teachers to use. The first three modules are ready to use and up on the web at <http://www.cias.wisc.edu/curriculum/index.htm>.

We are looking for feedback on the use of the curriculum. Could you help us by answering the following three questions and e-mailing your answers to dbmayerfeld@wisc.edu?

1. Have you looked at the curriculum?
2. Have you used any part of the curriculum?
3. Do you plan to use any part of the curriculum in the future?

If you would like to provide more detailed feedback, your additional comments are more than welcome. Add them to the e-mail, or just put in your phone number and a good time for Diane to call you.

Thank you!
Diane Mayerfeld
Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems (CIAS)
1535 Observatory Drive
Madison, WI 53706
phone: (608) 262-8188

Governor's Blue Ribbon Livestock Auction Grants

The Governor's Blue Ribbon Livestock Auction committee is pleased to announce it will be accepting applications for financial grants to organizations and youth programs which promote youth livestock projects. Last year almost \$20,000 was awarded to activities which provide educational opportunities to youth throughout Wisconsin involved in beef, sheep and swine projects. The grant money available is due to the success of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Livestock Auction which is held annually during the Wisconsin State Fair.

For grant request forms please contact Brian Bolan at Wisconsin State Fair 414-266-7050 or brian.bolan@sfp.state.wi.us. Grant applications are also available on-line at www.wistatefair.com. Applications are due by April 1, 2006.

Wisconsin State Fair Agriculture Department Volunteer Program

Wisconsin State Fair Park is extending to Agriculture youth groups the opportunity to join our successful volunteer program during the annual State Fair.

Volunteers must be at least 15 years of age and for groups of 4 or more at least one of the volunteers must be at least 18 years of age. Volunteers must fill out all volunteer liability and

agreement forms before working at State Fair. Stipends per volunteer will be awarded for each shift worked and stipends can be pro-rated if circumstances prevent your group from meeting its quota. You are only paid for volunteers who work.

Prior to the Fair, a designated leader must participate in an orientation meeting either in person or by conference call. A list of names of the individuals who will participate must be provided in advance

In order for this volunteer program to be successful I would encourage group leaders to have substitute workers available for shifts of 5 hours or more. Wisconsin State Fair will provide a free admission pass to each participant and a free meal in the Tommy G. Thompson Youth Center if the volunteer works a shift of 6 hours or more. We look forward to working with you and your group in the near future. Please call Brian Bolan at 414-266-7050 if you have any questions and want to know the areas of need.

National FFA Organization To Host Delta Conference and Delta II

Delta Conference is a five day professional development conference designed specifically for local agricultural education teachers. The primary objectives of **Delta Conference** are:

- Provide training in strategies that engage all students in learning
- Expand the local teacher's influence in the classroom, school, and community
- Advance the integration and use of LifeKnowledge at the local level

Teachers with a minimum of one year teaching experience and with plans to teach in the 2006-2007 school year are eligible to apply for Delta. Selected teachers will only be responsible for their travel to and from Indianapolis. The organization and FFA Foundation will provide lodging and meals for the participants while at the conference. Emphasis in the selection process will be placed on the teacher's use of LifeKnowledge, the teacher's willingness to grow as a teacher and leader, and the teacher's ability to influence fellow agricultural education instructors.

A total of 30 positions are available to attend the **Delta Conference**. State leaders will be notified of teachers from their states who have applied for the Delta Conference as well as those teachers who have been selected.

The organization is focusing efforts to create a second Delta Conference for an additional 50 first time attendees. Details about this effort are outlined in the attached word document. This conference would take place July 23-28 in Indianapolis. Notification about hosting a second Delta Conference will be sent to state leaders and applicants by April 21.

The application for Delta Conference can be requested from Jeff Hicken (Jeffrey.hicken@dpi.state.wi.us). Applications are due **electronically** to delta@ffa.org by **April 10, 2006**. Please forward this e-mail to those teachers who you feel are interested in applying for **Delta Conference**.

In conjunction with Delta Conference, the organization will also be hosting **Delta II**. **Delta II** is for 20 participants who attended the 2005 Delta Conference. While part of **Delta II** will focus on growing the returning teacher's own agricultural education program, a significant amount of time will be spent preparing **Delta II** participants to help other agricultural education teachers integrate LifeKnowledge in their programs. These applications will be sent directly to last year's participants.

Andy Armbruster
Education Specialist
LifeKnowledge Center for Agricultural Education
National FFA Organization
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Indianapolis, IN 46278-1370

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aarmbruster@ffa.org
www.ffa.org

Honorary State FFA Degree Applications

Taken From State Constitution and By-Laws 2006

Honorary Membership - Non-Teachers

Farmers, school superintendents, principals, members of boards of education, chapter advisors, teachers, staff members in agricultural education, businessmen, and others who are helping to advance agriculture education and the FFA and who have rendered outstanding service, may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting or convention. Honorary membership shall be limited to the Honorary Chapter FFA Degree to the local chapter, Honorary Wisconsin FFA Degree to the State Association.

Honorary membership recognizes individuals who contribute to the Wisconsin Association of FFA at the state level, e.g., serving on a state committee, serving as an advisory member, or in some way serving the State Association. Local chapters utilize the Honorary Chapter Degree for those individuals who so admirably serve the local chapter. We encourage chapters to nominate only those individuals who have served the State Association.

INSTRUCTIONS

Nominations must be:

1. no more than a one-page explanation of why the individual is being nominated. Please include the nominee's complete name, address, phone number, and e-mail address (if possible).
2. signed (electronically, if available) by the chapter president and advisor.
3. sent to Mary Elstad Gagnon, The Wisconsin FFA Foundation
 - a. on-line at wisffaoundation@tds.net, on or before April 3 or
 - b. mailed to 1241 John Q. Hammons Drive, Madison, WI 53727, postmarked on or before April 3.

Honorary State FFA Degree Application - Teacher

Nominations must:

1. be no more than a one-page explanation of why the individual is being nominated.
2. include the complete name, address, phone number, and e-mail address (if possible) of
 - a. the people making the nomination and
 - b. the person/business being nominated.
3. be sent to Jeff Hicken, State FFA Advisor, Department of Public Instruction
 - a. on-line at jeffrey.hicken@dpi.state.wi.us, on or before April 3 or
 - b. mailed to P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841, postmarked on or before April 3.

NEW Scholarship Announced

The Wisconsin FFA Foundation is pleased to announce the Wisconsin Idea Foundation will be funding a \$500 scholarship this year. In addition to meeting the General Criteria for scholarship eligibility, the recipient must be pursuing a degree in environmental education/natural resources. For further information regarding scholarships offered through The Wisconsin FFA Foundation, click on <http://www.wisconsinffa.org/files/06-scholarshiplist.doc> . To complete an application, click on <http://www.wisconsinffa.org/files/06-scholarshipapps.xls>.

2006 American Nursery and Landscape Association Grant Application

NAAE is pleased to announce the continuation of the **American Nursery and Landscape Association "Enhancing Nursery and Landscape Instruction"** Grant Program.

The objective of this grant program is to build outstanding instructional programs that prepare students to enter nursery and landscape related careers and/or higher education in areas related to nursery/landscape.

NAAE will accept NAAE/ANLA Enhancing Nursery and Landscape Instruction Grant proposals from teachers/instructors at any secondary school and two-year postsecondary institution who are active members or active life members of NAAE.

The postmark deadline for submitting applications to the NAAE office is **May 15, 2006**.

Application details are attached in Word and PDF formats and can also be downloaded from the NAAE website at <http://www.naae.org/awards/applications/index.html>.

Please feel free to contact the NAAE office if you have any questions.

WAAE PSA Contest Information Available - Entries Due 05/15/06

The WAAE PSA contest information for this year is now available

Your students/chapter can receive \$250 for the winning PSA

Click on the link below for more information

<http://www.waae.com/PSA%20Annoucement1.doc>

That's all for this week from your DPI Staff:

J. Keith Eccarius Administrative Assistant Agriculture and Natural Resources Education Department of Public Instruction P.O. Box 7841 Madison, WI 53707-7841 608-266-7262 608-267-9275 (fax) J.Keith.Eccarius@dpi.state.wi.us	Jeff Hicken Agriculture and Natural Resources Consultant Agriculture and Natural Resources Education Department of Public Instruction P.O. Box 7841 Madison, WI 53707-7841 608-267-9255 608-267-9275 (fax) Jeffrey.hicken@dpi.state.wi.us
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<http://www.dpi.wi.gov/cte/agww.html>